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Mary A. Day, of the Gray Herbarium, has just distributed a pamphlet,<sup>1</sup> reprinted from Vol. I of *Rhodora*, in which 258 titles of books and papers referring to the flora of New England are cited, bringing the record down to the end of 1899. Miss Day's painstaking care, and the exceptional facilities afforded by the great libraries clustered about Boston and the interest in her work of the members of the New England Botanical Club, have resulted in the compilation of a bibliographic aid which should be in every botanical library in the country.

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**Botanical Notes.** — The *Tenth Annual Report* of the President of Columbia University states that the herbarium and the principal part of the botanical library of that institution have been transferred to the New York Botanical Garden, while for the future the advanced work in botany of the University will be carried on in the laboratories of the Garden. By this combination of the resources of the University with those of the Garden, the latter gains, it is stated, at the beginning of its career, a scientific equipment and a scientific importance which otherwise it could hope to achieve only slowly, while the University receives at once the advantage of the added facilities of the Garden, which, now considerable, will become of the greatest importance as the years go on. The Garden has inaugurated a new publication, under the title of *Journal*, which is intended to give popular information on the development and work of the establishment, and is to be edited by Dr. MacDougal.

The "Talcott Arboretum" of Mount Holyoke College, as appears from a recent number of *American Gardening*, is a glazed structure covering 6430 square feet and with a maximum height of 27 feet 9 inches.

The question of the classification of odors and their use in distinguishing things is again raised by W. C. Alpers in a paper on "Odor Standards," in the *Proceedings of the American Pharmaceutical Association*, Vol. XLVII, p. 221. He suggests a classification for the use of pharmacists, based on the chemical compounds which produce the odor sensations by reacting on the olfactory serum. Odor classifications, like that of Linnæus, and that of flower odors by Delpino, have their value at present, but rest on a more indefinite foundation than that proposed by Mr. Alpers. Kerner has given

<sup>1</sup> Day, M. A. *The Local Floras of New England*. 8vo, 28 pp. Cambridge, 1899. 35 cents.

such a preliminary classification of flower odors in his *Pflanzenleben*; but, as Mr. Alpers intimates, "a new field of research is spread before us for unlimited work" on the composition of volatile substances before a classification approaching perfection can be made.

J. B. S. NORTON.

*Erythea*, a wide-awake journal devoted largely to Western American botany, which has existed for seven years, is to be closed with the final part for 1899. It will be missed in many libraries, and yet the problem of the bibliographer will be simplified by a reduction in the number of journals that he must keep track of.

Part XXI of *Pittonia* for July to December, 1899, contains the following papers by Professor Greene: "A Decade of New Gutierrezias," "Some Western Species of Xanthium," "Four New Violets," "New or Noteworthy Species," XXV-XXVI, "Segregates of *Caltha leptosepala*," "New Species of *Arenaria*," and "West American *Asperifolia*," IV.

Part III, second series, of *Minnesota Botanical Studies* contains two articles on algæ, two on lichens, and synonymic conspectuses of the native and garden Aconitums and Aquilegias of North America.

Cratægus, a genus in which species-splitting has heretofore been restricted to a rather remarkable degree, is proving to comprise a very large number of apparently separable forms as represented in North America, and Mr. C. D. Beadle, of the Biltmore estate, publishes in the *Botanical Gazette* for January a first instalment of studies in this genus, in which seven species are described as new. In fact, it appears as if almost anywhere in the middle South and West a half dozen nondescript red haws can be picked up in a day's botanizing, in their fruiting season, in autumn.

Mitella, of the trifida section, is passed in review by Piper in *Erythea* for December, with the result that four new species are described.

The Umbelliferæ of Mexico and Central America are treated in an excellent paper by Coulter and Rose, issued in January as a brochure comprising pp. 111-159 of the first volume of the *Proceedings* of the Washington Academy of Sciences.

*Rhodora* for January contains an editorial note and a series of short articles on the dwarf mistletoe, *Arceuthobium pusillum*, in New England.

A systematic revision of the genus *Najas*, by A. B. Rendle, constitutes Vol. V, Part XII, of the current series of botanical *Transactions* of the Linnæan Society of London, issued in December.

A morphological and anatomical study of *Pogonia ophioglossoides* is published by Holm in the *American Journal of Science* for January.

Several new grasses from Pringle's Mexican collection of 1899 are described by Scribner in *Circular No. 19* of the Division of Agrostology of the United States Department of Agriculture.

Professor von Wettstein contributes a paper on the pistillate flower of Ginkgo to the December number of the *Oesterreichische Botanische Zeitschrift*, in which he regards the flower as an axillary bud with two transverse carpels.

Professor Thaxter, whose thorough work in the Laboulbeniaceæ has given him a most enviable reputation, publishes in a recent number of the *Proceedings* of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences diagnoses of a large number of new species of the typical genus *Laboulbenia*, preliminary to a supplement to his monograph of the order.

The subject of plants injurious to stock, on which considerable work has been done by American botanists, is further discussed by Mr. Carruthers, the consulting botanist of the Royal Agricultural Society of England, in No. 40 of the *Journal* of that society. A note by Dr. Labesse, in Vol. XVIII of the *Bulletin* of the Société d'études scientifiques d'Angers, shows that in France the tubers of *Cenanthus crocata* are a source of considerable danger to stock.

*Der Tropenpflanzer* for January contains an interesting illustrated article by H. J. Boeken on the growth and preparation of fiber from *Agave sisalana*, in Yucatan.

The *Botanical Magazine* of Tokyo for December contains a portrait of the late Professor R. Yatabe. Professor Yatabe was trained at Cornell University, and was well known to many American students a quarter of a century ago, before returning to his native country, where he exerted an important influence in the development of the botanical work of the great Tokyo University.

A biographical sketch of H. G. Bloomer, with portrait, is published by Jepson in *Erythea* for December.